

The Messenger.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1897.

THE INFAMOUS TARIFF BILL.

The game playing by the republicans in the house is to rush through their new monster tax bill without due consideration and due process of legislation. This may serve them in the house but it is to be hoped the plan if pressed in the senate will fail, will come to grief. It will be a blessed thing for the country if the monster is shorn of much of its proportions or if it is altogether slaughtered. An increased tax upon a high tax of 13 per cent, is too intolerably absurd to be countenanced, supported or defended. The Philadelphia Record, noting the haste, says:

"Unless the plans for jamming the measure through shall fail it will be sent to the senate on April 1st. It is a misnomer to call a proceeding of this kind deliberative legislation. It is a mere conspiracy to take advantage of the government's financial necessities in order to promote the advantage of the parties to the conspiracy by an agreed upon arrangement of tariff schedules."

The principle of taxation for protection is wrong, is merciless, is immoral and unconstitutional. It is simply "robbery" declared so by a republican supreme court. It is nothing.

The new measure is not only fearful, drastic, oppressive and wicked, but it is unequal and scores of articles are taxed out of all proportion to others and most unintelligently. The bill is believed to be unscientific, and most unwise in its discriminations against a multitude of articles. It is admitted by its friends that it taxes very high articles in daily use. This is the principle of the greedy. The common necessities of life should have but little tax, while the luxuries should have a high tax placed upon them. Great Britain raises some \$80,000,000 a year upon tobacco. We fight a protective tax as wrong in principle. It is the most vicious form of class legislation. It taxes the millions for the benefit of the thousands. It is against right, honor, morality and law. It matters not who levies a protective tax it is wrong, and has been wisely condemned by the supreme court. The new bill is the most infamous of all measures heretofore proposed. It ought to damn the party that favors it, and will damn it unless the American people have lost their sense of justice and their love of the right. It will be a stone around the neck of the most wicked, reckless, vicious and venal party known to American history.

It is to be hoped that the democrats in the congress—elected as such—will not dicker with the protection robbers upon any plea. There are intimations that some of the democrats are disposed to form some alliance with the robbers that there may be a division of spoils. If this is done it will be unworthy, unwisely, foully done. The democratic party is a very dishonest party if it is not an anti-protection party. It has been lying since the Tilden platform of 1876, straight out, if it is not truly hostile to the robber principle whenever and wherever applied. We do not see how it is possible for any honest, faithful democrat to touch with the longest of political poles the McKinley-Dingley bill. Mr. Castle, of California, rightly said of this monstrosity that the proper title with which to designate it should be "To Foster Trusts and to Pauperize and Penalize the Agricultural Laborers of the United States." The primary object of the bill, he said, was neither to raise revenue nor to encourage the industries of the United States, but was designed by its authors for the express purpose of enabling the powerful trusts to stand up the people of the country and to legally rob them.

"We are today," Mr. Castle said, "in the transitional stage, passing from a republican into the most odious form of government known in history—a monied oligarchy."

"Success is the reward of Merit" not of assumption. Popular application is what tells in the long run. For fifty years, people have been using Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and today it is the blood-purifier most in favor with the public. Ayer's Sarsaparilla cures.

THE FACTS ABOUT GREECE AND CRETE.

So much has been written of Greece and the disturbance in Europe that the merits of the question have been so obscured as to be imperfectly understood. We are not sure that we grasp the full significance of the situation, and understand the contention and motive actuating Greece. Her people are greatly aroused, are seeking a fight, and are ahead of King George and his government in the desire for war. He is compelled by force of circumstances to take an advanced attitude. The perpetuity of his reign, the very safety of his throne depend upon his willingness for war. He would be set aside at once if he hesitated. The Greeks have once or twice sent away monarchs that did not suit them, and within the last sixty-five years. So he must be

for war whether or no against his judgment and real inclination.

We do not understand that the Greeks desire to have war with Turkey for the sake of resentment or an eagerness to test its powers. But its purpose and controlling motive are quite otherwise. The desire of Greece is to annex Crete, and it is a reasonable, natural desire, for the Cretans are Greeks. An informed writer in The New York Evening Post says:

"The Cretans are Greeks severed from their brethren. They may differ from them to a certain extent in mixture of foreign blood and in characteristics, but how much alike in these respects are the Piedmontese and Neapolitans? Crete, which had tried to free herself with the rest of Greece, was handed back to the Turks, owing to the shortsightedness of the British ministry, which deplored Navarino as an 'unfortunate event.' Since then the island has repeatedly risen in insurrection. The Greeks naturally look on it as a part of their country still held in slavery; thus they feel that they have every moral right, not to say obligation, to strive for it whenever they have a chance."

This, we take it, to be a correct statement, and it places the matter briefly and clearly before the reader. The Cretans would no doubt be glad to be now reunited to Greece, for it has had far more than enough of Turkish misrule and oppression. Why the powers are acting as they are is another question. It is not honorable to them that they should take any step favorable to "the unspeakable Turk." The truth is the conduct of the great European nations both as to the Armenians and the Greeks has been without proper justification. If the outcome of the trouble as to Greece should be the control of Crete by Turkey it will be a stain and reproach to the powers that bring this about. It is the intense jealousy of each other combined with lust of power and greed of acquisition that prevent now and have prevented the powers acting the part of high and noble and beneficent statesmanship. The writer quoted from says pointedly that "if Europe, which has not been able to combine against the Turks, does succeed in combining for them, we can only regret that there is not a ruling statesman who has dared to stand up for the right, come what may. The powers are acting for what they believe to be their own interests. There are no reasons save those of expediency why Greece should let herself be restrained by the fact that they are so afraid of their readiness to fly at each other's throats that they dread every disturbance."

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HOME FOLKS.

So Jim Young is happy now. He is standing up to the pie counter and grabs daily a good sized slice, with thanks to the Tsar. The new board is pleased to say that the democrats, who have made the Agricultural department what it is, "have set the mark very high and the new men will have to work hard to reach it." Yea, verily, and to do it, they must give more time to duty than to pie-eating.

One of Russell's appointees—one Chamberlain—is a fine one. Has his official record been written up yet by any Raleigh paper? What about his career of usefulness(?) as a teacher in the Mechanical and Industrial college? And about his ability and success in the office he has been filling for some time? Will not someone at the centre give the people at large some insight into the career of this new Russell selection for place under his imperial government?

The Wilmington and Weldon railroad deserves much credit for the thoughtfulness and enterprise in providing storage buildings for the truckers on the line of the road. An old friend of ours who has travelled the road recently, told us that at every depot, large well constructed sheds were being erected, and simultaneously, and some costing as high as \$800, for the benefit of the truckers so their vegetables, etc., might be protected while awaiting transportation. This is considerate and clever, and the truckers will no doubt properly appreciate this voluntary action of the management.

When the Tsar got off that little joke of his about getting the benevolent institutions out of politics he must have enjoyed "the fun." We can see him in imagination inditing his clear-cut statement and a wave of smiles breaking over his face as he poked his sarcasm and joke at the disappointed democrats. He is trying to get the benevolent institutions out of politics by dividing the offices among the parties. That is Russell's way of sympathy and appreciation of "the eternal fitness of things." He takes this eleemosynary and other state institutions and makes them the resting place as well as pie

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counters for hungry henchmen without reference to ability, qualification, experience and moral fitness.

The negroes are responsible to God and humanity for the present condition of affairs, and very deplorable they are, in North Carolina. It was their vote that installed in office the miserable legislature that betrayed the people, and that has put men in office who are unworthy. They are responsible, for it was their votes that wrought the ruin. They are now "enjoying" disappointments like the fellow said his wife "enjoyed bad health." Look at the Goldsboro colored hospital, so well managed by Dr. Miller and his subordinates. The Rads have broken faith with the negroes and denied them the places they sought. What democrat can pity them or weep with them in the bitterness of their sorrow. It was all a question of pie or no pie, and it turns out that it is no pie.

So the Tsar is content. He enjoys his "little brief authority" so much he is not hankering after judicial robes and honors. He will not gratify his enemies within his own party, so much as by doffing imperial robes to don judicial. We think Russell unwise, from the standing-point of money. To have a life office worth \$6,000 a year brings more pie than a four years' tenure at \$3,000. If he holds out against the allurements and lust of gain he is more self-sacrificing than many would have believed him capable of. If we thought that little Reynolds would be any improvement upon the Tsar we would join the enemies who are plotting to have him go on the bench. But doubting the wisdom of the swap, it is perhaps as safe to have a brainy, self-willed man playing the role of Tsar as to have a small fellow intellectually, manipulated by men neither wise nor patriotic nor safe.

Hall's Hair Renewer cures dandruff and scalp affections; also cases of baldness where the glands which feed the roots of the hair are not closed up.

SHARPS AND FLATS.

The is reported a strong sympathy prevailing now among the English dissenters of all shades and names. Once they warred upon each other with fiery zeal, but now they are getting closer together, and all names are harmonizing—Congregationalists, Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, Quakers and perhaps others. The particular cause is not agreement in doctrinal views, but is a common dislike to church and state. They are taxed to support the state church as well as their own denominational interests. There has been for a long time an intense and growing hostility in this matter, and it will come to a head soon or late as the combined sentiment amounts to much as the whole body of dissenters constitute a powerful organization, numerically and intellectually. They feel deeply the treatment they receive from the Establishment and are ready to resent and throw off what they consider as oppressions. The Contemporary Review publishes a paper, in which it is said that "it seems to us as monstrous that the state should domineer over the church as that the church should domineer over the state. It would be thought monstrous if we proposed that the president of the Methodist conference should nominate the members of her majesty's government. But surely it is equally and more monstrous that the members of her majesty's government should nominate the president of the Methodist conference. The church has the same right as the state to be self-governed. Both are of God, both have their own spheres, and the only Christian doctrine of their relation is explained in the famous formula of Calvary: 'A free church in a free state.'"

It is rather surprising that the press has so little to say as to the great extravagance and waste of the public moneys. The cry is daily more revenue, and the dominant party is planning to greatly increase the burden of taxation. The plea is that it is necessary to raise money sufficient for public expenditures. No one speaks for retrenchment, for rigid economy, for reducing taxation. It is all the other way. The press is for the most part silent and indifferent. The republican organs do not say a word about cutting down expenses. They blow loud and long for higher taxes to raise more revenue. The opposition newspapers do not give sufficient attention to the extraordinary abuses in expenditures—more than \$510,000,000 a year. The New York Evening Post lately said:

"Regarding this reckless dissipation of public funds, with the treasury continually embarrassed, Mr. Cannon speaks with proper frankness. He admits that the appropriations are 'in excess of the legitimate demands of the public service.' . . . We believe, in short, that only organized party pressure, applied by the strongest leaders of congress, will check this foolish waste. The congressman who wishes to bleed the treasury must be informed that there are larger interests to be considered than his village court houses, pension agents, and contractor acquaintances in the lobby."

New York is running a wild course in expenditures. The expenses of the state for one year are \$25,510,000—or one-third or more than President Buchanan expended in an entire year for all that it took to carry on the United States government honestly, economically and efficiently. In New York \$118,000,000 have been expended on charitable, penal and educational institutions that must now be permanently maintained. These public enterprises include three state prisons,

twelve normal schools, forty-five arsenals and armories, twelve state hospitals and seventeen charitable asylums for the care of the insane, the blind, deaf mutes and other classes of unfortunate people. The tax levy is 2.69 mills in 1896, on the dollar. The people up there have big burdens but there is "big money."

We have been interested in a recent statement sent out from Fall River, (Mass.) relative to the actual situation at that great cotton milling centre. It reveals a condition not entirely one of satisfaction. Nothing like it exists in any state in the south. The northern mills tried to prevent overproduction by shorter hours of work. They tried to keep down stock by working only four days in six. But the complaint is that the increased production in the south was more than enough to make up for the reduction in the north. The article referred to states this:

"For this sacrifice, it is said, no corresponding benefit has accrued, but southern competitors have run on full time, and filled up the vacuum which northern manufacturers have been trying to create. Fall River owners state that it can only be proved beyond question that southern mills producing the same fabrics as those made in this city are realizing satisfactory profits at present market prices. Their taxes are nominal, fuel, in many cases, is less than its cost here, the hours of work range from sixty-six to seventy-two hours weekly, and labor will average 40 per cent. less in price."

Who can doubt longer in the face of such a confession that the south holds the whip hand, and has a decided advantage over the north in cotton manufacturing?

The State Will be Redeemed.
The editorial from The Wilmington Messenger, on the second page of today's paper, "Watchman, What of the Night," has the true ring. The extract quoted from a private letter from Colonel Julian S. Carr gives a true idea of the sentiment entertained by the patriotic people of North Carolina. They are not heedless of the disgraceful conditions that obtain in the public life of the old commonwealth. The manly words of Colonel Carr, and the appeal of Dr. Kingsbury to patriotic men to rescue the state from unworthy hands will not fall on deaf ears.

The people of North Carolina are patient and long suffering. It has been said of them that they are as slow as the wrath of God. If so, they are as sure. They will sink minor differences in 1898 and forever repudiate the gang that disgraced the commonwealth in legislation and still disgrace it by making the charitable institutions the site of political pill rollers and other political benchmen.

The day of reckoning will come, democrats: Be not faithless, but gird up your loins for the redemption of the state.—Raleigh News and Observer of March 25th.

Free Pills.

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Searching for the Laurada.

Philadelphia, P., March 25.—The Record says that by order of the Cuban junta the Bermuda sailed from Fernandina in search of the Laurada, known to have on board an important expedition in aid of the insurgents. It is believed that the Laurada broke down and those aboard are in need of assistance. The tug Monarch has been started from Pensacola on the same errand. It is almost certain that the Laurada has not landed her big cargo of munitions of war, and reluctantly admitted by Cubans here that the mission thus far is a failure.



Fifty Years Ago.

President Polk in the White House chair, while in Lowell was Doctor Ayer; Both were busy for human weal. One to govern and one to heal. And, as a president's power of will Sometimes depends on a liver-pill, Mr. Polk took Ayer's Pills I trow For his liver, 50 years ago.

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were designed to supply a model purgative to people who had so long injured themselves with griping medicines. Being carefully prepared and their ingredients adjusted to the exact necessities of the bowels and liver, their popularity was instantaneous. That this popularity has been maintained is well marked in the medal awarded these pills at the World's Fair 1893.

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